

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. M 23/31 A

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Pleasant Fieldsand/or common August Priebe Barn

2. Location

street & number 4801 Sundown Road not for publicationcity, town Laytonsville vicinity of congressional district state Maryland county Montgomery

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> </u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture
<u> </u> building(s)	<u> </u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational
<u> </u> site	<u> </u> Public Acquisition	<u> </u> Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial
	<u> </u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military
			<u> </u> museum
			<u> </u> park
			<u> </u> private residence
			<u> </u> religious
			<u> </u> scientific
			<u> </u> transportation
			<u> </u> other: storage

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Jeffrey A. & L. F. Jonesstreet & number 4801 Sundown Road telephone no.: 301-774-5583city, town Gaithersburg state and zip code MD 20879

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 5898street & number folio 57city, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title M-NCPPC Historic Sites Inventorydate 1976 federal state county local depository for survey records M-NCPPC Park Historian's Officecity, town Rockville state Maryland

7. Description

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Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This general purpose, or utility, barn was built by August Priebe in 1926. It has a sawn timber structure (mortise, tenon, and pegged) supporting a metal-covered, gambrel roof, and is sheathed with vertical board and batten wood siding. The foundation walls are rubble masonry. Although it is a bank barn, the south wall of the stabling area is not recessed beneath an overhang, but instead consists of a flush wall containing six windows on each side of a center opening. These windows contain six-over-six wood sash. The bottom sash is fixed; the upper sash tilts inward. The central doorway contains only a wood gate. A small Z-braced wood door with a six-light window in its upper portion is set in the east end of this wall. At the hayloft level, three large board and batten doors rolling on a horizontal track cover openings to the upper level of the barn.

The east elevation of the barn contains five small windows at the stabling level. Between the windows stands a roofless concrete stave silo with exterior steel bands. The west elevation of the barn contains new and altered windows and a doorway leading into the stabling area. There are no windows or louvered openings in the upper portions of either of these walls. A small concrete block dairy with metal-covered, hip roof stands a few feet from the west end of the barn. It has been remodeled for use as an office.

The north elevation consists of huge board and batten doors which roll horizontally on a track to reveal the large openings to the hayloft. The interior of this large barn is in excellent condition, is used for miscellaneous storage, and gives an excellent impression of the massiveness of such a building.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1926

Builder/Architect

August W. Priebe

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

August W. Priebe, local farmer and barn builder, built this barn for himself in 1926, cutting down the trees on his property and sawing them into lumber on his steam-powered, circular-saw mill. Originally the barn was designed to house working stock (horses). It was later converted to a dairy barn, then a cattle barn, and finally a horse barn, before being relegated to storage.¹

This sturdy barn is a transitional structure between the bank barns common until the 1920's and the concrete block, gambrel roof barns which would proliferate after 1930. It may have originally had a recessed area beneath the southern hayloft wall. This lower wall may have been extended when the barn was modified to house beef cattle.

The use of battens on the vertical board sheathing is unusual. Although very few barns used battens after 1900, Mr. Priebe apparently thought them important, for he used them also on the Freeman barn which he built in 1944-46 a short distance away. Most barns built prior to 1920 had gable roofs. Priebe's use of the gambrel follows the suggestions of the farm manuals published at the time, but his structural system of heavy timbers is not typical with this roof form. More common is the braced rafter or self-supporting truss structure which allowed for a large, open hayloft. The Ira Jones barn used this system in the early 1920's.

Thus structurally and aesthetically this barn is significant in the development of early 20th century farm buildings. It is important, too, as the work of an identified and very talented local barn builder.

FOOTNOTES

1. Interview with Russell Priebe, son of August Priebe, August, 1987.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No.M: 23/31A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Andrea Rebeck

organization Mtg. Co. Hist. Pres. Comm.

date 8/87

street & number

telephone

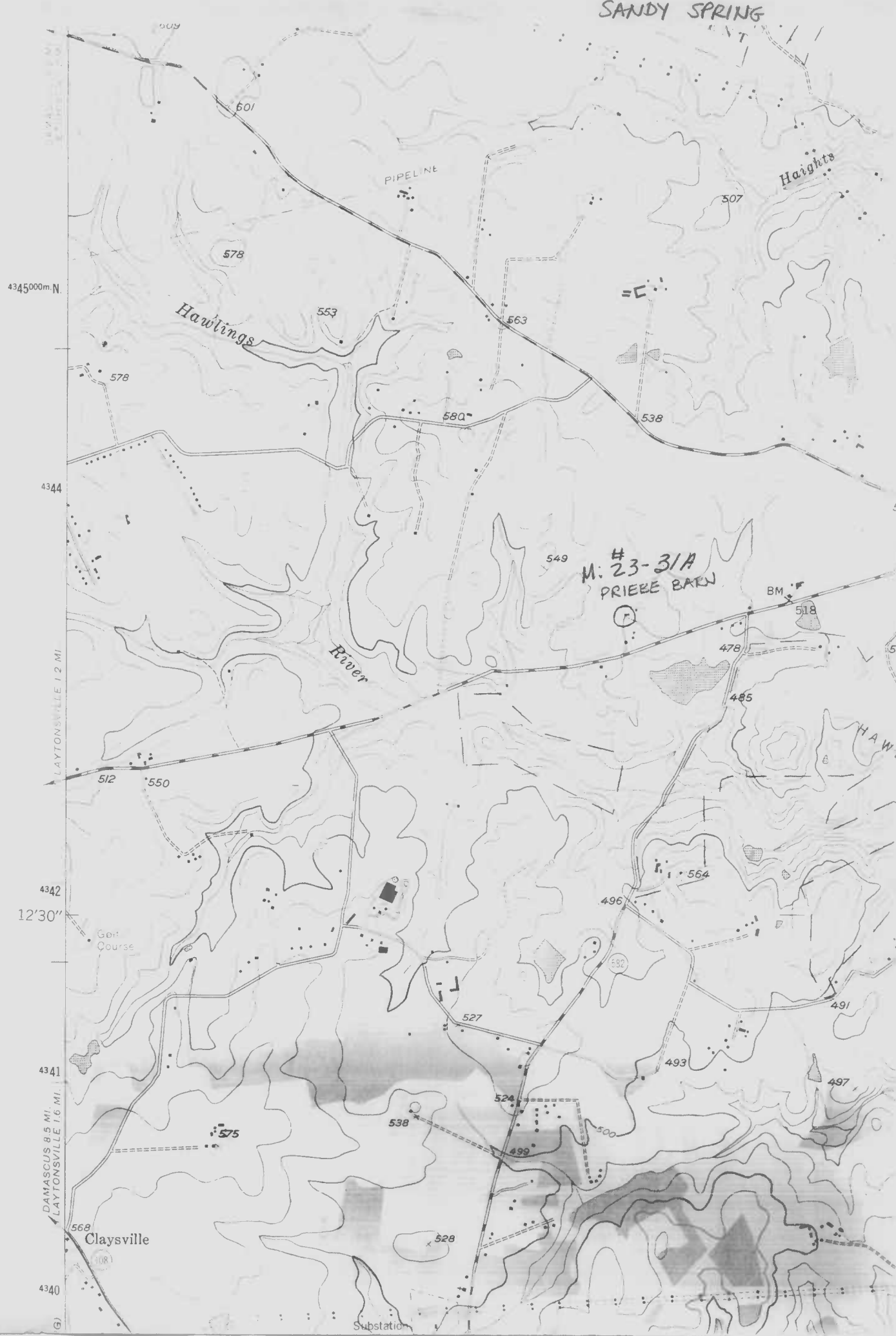
city or town Rockville

state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438



SANDY SPRING

Heights

Hawlings

River

M. # 23-31A
PREEKE BARN

Claysville

Substation

4345000m N.

4344

LAYTONSVILLE 12 MI

4342

12'30"

4341

DAMASCUS 8.5 MI.
LAYTONSVILLE 1.6 MI.

4340

(G)

M:23-31A

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See correspondence dated April 8, 1987

ACTION TAKEN

Final Draft Amendment to the Master Plan
OLNEY AREA HISTORIC RESOURCES

The purpose of this Amendment is to designate the following sites on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation thereby extending to them the protection of the County's Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the Montgomery County Code.

M: 23/9	Elton
M: 23/29	Fair Hill II
M: 23/31	Pleasant Fields/Sundown Hills
M: 23/58	Gustavus Jones Farm
M: 23/63	Longwood
M: 23/66	Bordley's Choice (Merrywood)
M: 23/71	Far View
M: 23/73	Gittings Ha Ha
M: 23/79	Roslyn Bank Barn
M: 23/84	Brooke Meadow
M: 23/89	Walnut Hill
M: 23/98-4	St. John's Episcopal Church
M: 23/196 106	Oakdale-Emory United Methodist Church
M: 23/112	Sycamores
M: 23/113-1	Mount Pleasant Church
M: 23/119	Holland Store & House



23-31

NAME PLEASANT FIELDS

LOCATION SUNDOWN Rd UNITY, Md

FACADE S

PHOTO TAKEN 11/8/74 MOWYER



#23-31

NAME PLEASANT FIELDS

LOCATION SUNDOWN Rd UNITY, Md

FACADE NW

PHOTO TAKEN 11/8/74 MOWER



#23-31

NAME GAITHER CEM. AT PLEASANT FIELDS

LOCATION SUNDOWN RD UNITY, MD

FACADE S

PHOTO TAKEN 11/8/74 MDWYER



M:23/31 A

August Priebe Barn
4801 Sundown Road
Laytonsville, MD
Andrea Rebeck
Looking southeast

1987



M: 23/31A

August Priebe Barn
4801 Sundown Road
Laytonsville, MD
Andrea Rebeck
Looking northwest

1987